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Coplon Trial Given Secrets In Her Purse

Copies of FBI Data
Mrs. S. Says She Stole
They Placed in Evidence
Along With Decoy

By Jerome C. Becker
Times Staff Writer
Twenty-two secret FBI data
files found in Judith Coplon's
purse when she was arrested
with a "dummy" last March
were introduced as evidence
yesterday in her espionage
trial.

The files were copies of top secret FBI reports on U. S. counterintelligence and the Government
spies. Mrs. Coplon made the
copies, it was charged, to help
her husband, Marcel J. Cohen,
and a "dummy" of F. A. Gersten
of the Soviet Embassy. Mrs. Coplon
denied this.

She also denied that she had
placed the secret files in her
purse for the Soviet spy service.

Attended Trial
Mrs. Coplon, Ruth Bader
and her husband Alvin
Coplon, 39, sat in the

defendant's dock yesterday
as the Government charged that a member
of Almora, Soviet Espionage
Agency, was informing against
Russia. This secret report, according
to the government, was inter-
nally, routed to Miss Coplon
only 10 hours before she was ar-
rested in New York with a per-
son of whom in her possession.

The contents of the "Coplon
files," the backbone of the Gov-
ernment case, were introduced

by the vigorous efforts of her
lawyer, Asst. Dist. Atty. Palmer, who

asserted they were illegally

seized.

Some of the files were other
original documents or "free doc-
ument" regarding the "FBI case."
The Government charged that Miss Coplon was the
secret "informant" files while she
was working in the Justice De-
partment's Alien Registration Sec-
tion to give to Valentin A. Drab-
kov, a supposed United Nations
employee.

Left Government in 1944

The slip which mentioned Dr.
Drabkov was an extract from an FBI
report on one Ursula Wasserman,
otherwise unidentified. The slip said: "In March, 1944, subject had
a letter addressed to her, the name
of Ruth Coplon, at the office of
Harold J. Cohen, Secretary
to Harold J. Cohen, Secretary
of Justice."

Miss Coplon left the Government
in February 1944, the day
before Cohen became Secretary.
Today, the trial was adjourned
as Dr. Palmer said he had
no more evidence to offer.

He said he would

return to the courtroom
tomorrow to present his
case.

Some of the files were
labeled "Top Secret" and
"Confidential" and "Secret."
"Some feel writer" (Miss Coplon's
name) on a slip of paper as
they try to "cover" her. "I'm
not, I'm a writer."

Palmer told the police Miss Gersten
will and "she's a Communist who's
well and "she's a Communist who's
well."

"But the information doesn't
have no secret information," he said.
"What do you know
with atomic bombs?"

Miss Gersten said she
"highly recommended" Dr.
Mary E. Binkovitch, Director
of the Greenwich House, New
York, and by Miss Mary as
wife of the last chairman of
A. Board.

The writer is

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